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**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Game and Fish needs information on elk poaching case**

*Reward of up to \$3,000 offered*

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. -- The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking the public's assistance in finding the individual or individuals responsible for illegally killing three bull elk in a poaching incident in northern Arizona.

The poaching may have occurred sometime during Dec. 3-5, and took place while a bull elk season was underway in Game Management Unit 5B, on the Coconino National Forest. Officers investigating the case discovered three bull elk carcasses left in an area near US Forest Service roads 104 and 124C, southeast of Mormon Lake (about 30 miles southeast of Flagstaff). Evidence discovered at the scene indicates that the elk were partially field dressed, with most of the edible meat left to waste.

"We investigate numerous poaching cases throughout the year and rely heavily on the public's help in catching the people that do this," says Wildlife Manager, Clint Adams. "This is a huge resource loss and all it takes is one piece of evidence to break a case." Adams adds, "We need information from someone who was in that area the first week of December, they may have enough information for us to bust the poachers"

Anyone with information regarding this case can call the department's Operation Game Thief Hotline toll free at (800) 352-0700 or use the online form at [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief). Callers should provide case number 12-003002 when calling. All calls may remain confidential upon request. A reward of up to \$3,000 may be available for information leading to the arrest of the violator(s). To learn more about Operation Game Thief, visit [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief).

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